

Attorney Docket No.: RTS-0169  
Inventors: Ward et al.  
Serial No.: 09/676,436  
Filing Date: September 29, 2000  
Page 2

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 (canceled).

Claim <sup>1</sup>/~~1~~ (currently amended): A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to nucleobases 3314 through 3333 of a coding region of a nucleic acid molecule encoding MEKK4 of SEQ ID NO: 3, wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with said region and inhibits the expression of MEKK4. The compound of claim 2 and wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide which comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

Claim <sup>2</sup>/~~2~~ (original): The compound of claim <sup>1</sup>/~~1~~ wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim <sup>3</sup>/~~3~~ (currently amended): The compound of ~~claim 2~~ claim <sup>1</sup>/~~1~~ wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

Claim <sup>4</sup>/~~4~~ (original): The compound of claim <sup>3</sup>/~~3~~ wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

Attorney Docket No.: RTS-0169  
Inventors: Ward et al.  
Serial No.: 09/676,436  
Filing Date: September 29, 2000  
Page 3

Claim <sup>5</sup>~~8~~ (currently amended): The compound of ~~claim 2~~ <sup>1</sup>~~claim 4~~ wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

Claim <sup>6</sup>~~9~~ (original): The compound of claim <sup>5</sup>~~8~~ wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

Claim <sup>7</sup>~~10~~ (currently amended): The compound of ~~claim 2~~ <sup>1</sup>~~claim 4~~ wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

Claims 11-12 (canceled).

Claim <sup>8</sup>~~13~~ (currently amended): A ~~The composition comprising the compound of claim 12~~ <sup>1</sup>~~claim 4~~ and further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

Claim 14 (canceled).

Claim <sup>9</sup>~~15~~ (currently amended): A method of inhibiting the expression of MEKK4 in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues in vitro with the compound of claim <sup>1</sup>~~4~~ so that expression of MEKK4 is inhibited.

Claims 16-20 (canceled).